औद्योगिक घरानों के टेलीफोनों का चोरी छिपे सुना जाना

365. श्रीमती आनन्दीबेन जेठाभाई पटेल: क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हाल ही में औद्योगिक घरानों के टेलीफोनों को चोरी छिपे सुना गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं, और इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) और (ख) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और इसे सभा पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

PCOs in rural areas

366. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS he pleased to state:

(a) the present coverage of rural PCOs in the country and the quantum of additions envisaged for the 8th Five Year Plan Period.

(b) the state-wise/district-wise details of post offices in rural areas which do not have a PCO and the time-frame provided to instal a PCO in every village Pon Office;

(c) whether applicants from SCST and Backward

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on 28.02 1995, the total number of villages having the coverage of rural PCOs is 1,70,241. During the Eighth Five Year Plan, a total quantum of additions en-visaged is coverage or 3,86,418 villages comprising of all 236418 Panchayat villages, and an additional 1,50,000 non* Panchayat villages.

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. No such treatment is given in case of rural areas. However in case of urban areas wherever there tea Constraint in the exchange capacity, such preferential treatment is given to the applicants from SC/ST and Backward classes of society in allotment of private PCOs.

Changes in telecom pottcy

367. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any shift in its new Telecom Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the benefits expected out of it;

(c) when the rural areas will get bene fit of telecom services;

(d) whether Government have any plans to give telephones immediately to every-one who demands, without waiting for longer periods, in the urban areas, particularly in Ahmedabad and metropolitan cities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) A policy decision was taken in January, 1991 to provide telephone facility to all Panchayat villages of. the country progressively by. 31st March. 1995, subject to availability of resources. The new Telecom Policy, 1994 envisages coverage of all villages for the purpose of telephone facility by 1997. Private sector participation has also been envisaged for achieving this goal As part of this programme, following services ate planned:

in the matter of allotment of pri

(i) To provide one public telephone in each village by the end of 8th Five Year Plan.

(ii) Open .small, exchange at a plaxe, whenever paid registered de-mand exceeds 10.

As on 28.01195, above t,70,0ep villages-have been provided with Telecom Servi ces-

(d) The objectives of the 8,th Five Year Plan (1992-97) of the Department of Telecommunications envisage:

— waiting period for providing telephone-connections not to exceed two years in large telephone sys-. tern

However, National Telecom Policy, 1394 envisages providing telephone connections practically.. on demand by 1997 all over the country including Ahmedabad and metropolitan cities.

(e) Basic Services are being opened to private sector for which tenders have been called to . • supplement, the efforts of Department of Telecom in meeting the objectives of- National Tele com Policy,. 1994.

Malfunctioning of the MTNL

368. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has. been, drawn to the newsitem cap tioned "Bluish. system to check MTNL malfunctioning" reported in the Hindus tan Times dated the 9 th February, 1995

(b) if so, whether Government propose to seek the help of the UK in click ing the malfunctioning of MTNL;

to) .the details of loofoles and.discre-.... pancies.found, in the working of MTNL; and

(d) the other corrective, measures taken" to streamline the functioning of MTNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir-

(b) No, Sir. .

(c) and (d) .MTNL is a big organisa tion whose network has crossed 2 million telephone, lines .mark recently and is growing at around 20 per cent. annum For maintenance of cable records *in* such a large system and periodical mom-taring their health, automatic processes through cmputer controlled Systems are necessary. A pilot project with the" help of Telecom. Engineering Centre has been proposed to improve the reliability of cable data and record keeping. Various other measures taken to improve' the services "by MTNL are given in State ment.

. . **Statement** .

Steps taken to improve servives ?MTNL

Several measures have been taken, to wards betterment of services by improving reliability as well as by improving customer interface. These are as under:

1. *TELEPHONE EXCHANGE AND MEDIA:*

(a) Introduction of Electronic Ex-changes.

(b) Introduction of Electronic Taxs.

. -(c) Introduction of Eleotronic Transit Exchanges

(d) Phasing out of old and life expired electro mechanical exchanges.

(e) Introduction of optical fibre and digital clcrowave 'system for Interexcrrange functions.

2. *INTERNAL PLANT:*

(a) Laying of under, ground cables inducts

(b) Pressurisation. of paper core under-ground-cables..

(c) Use of 'Jelly "filled PVC insula ted under-ground rabies.

(d) Use of improved termination devices employing insulation displace ment technique. It pron.